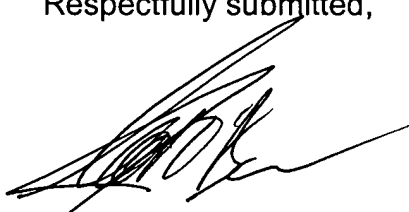


### REMARKS

This First Preliminary Amendment is being submitted for the purpose of reducing the number claims at the time of filing. The application is a continuation application of a previously allowed application, and new claims will be submitted prior to examination. Entry of this First Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Date: 3/24/04

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. O'Banion", written over a horizontal line.

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